



Inside the Issue

LIFE SKILLS: RELATING

When relating, we are establishing a mutual or reciprocal connection between two people that is wholesome and meaningful to both. Learn how to do this in your 4-H club.

ELECTING OFFICERS

Gain a better understanding of all of the club officer positions and the proper way to hold elections and installations.

CREATING AN INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT

Create an atmosphere where everyone feels welcome during your 4-H meetings and events.

NATIONAL 4-H WEEK OCTOBER 3-9

This years theme for National 4-H week is "Find your Spark." How can you help youth in there club find their spark? Scan the code to watch the video that will debut during National 4-H Week.



WHAT IS NATIONAL 4-H WEEK?

It has been over 100 years since the first 4-H club began with the intent of improving farming practices and farm life. Over the years, the 4-H program has evolved to include over 30 different projects which youth of all backgrounds can engage in to build life skills.

During National 4-H week, 4-H members from around the country will join together to celebrate the 4-H organization, youth and the volunteers that make this program what it is today.

This is a week dedicated to highlighting program successes and the youth involved in it. It is the perfect time to encourage youth to join the 4-H program, encourage adults to volunteer and to recognize parents for their contributions to 4-H. Through the interest of youth and the dedication of 4-H volunteers and parents, the 4-H program continues to provide educational opportunities in which youth have the chance to not only increase their knowledge in subject matter but to change their behaviors as well. Youth involved in 4-H have increased their abilities to work as a team, to lead others, to be responsible, to speak to a group, and most of all to be confident in themselves and their projects. The life skills that they acquire through these projects not only benefit our youth now, but will follow them into their future endeavors as well.

Celebrate National 4-H week by participating in the Social Media promotion. If you are interested in doing more, check out these ideas for promoting 4-H.

- *Painted sign promoting 4-H
- *Yard display promoting activities
- *Paint windows (with permission)
- *Set up a 4-H display at a school, library, grocery store etc.
- *Visit a classroom to talk about 4-H
- *Create a poster campaign in your community



FIND YOUR SPARK

What drives you to complete a task? What is something that you are passionate about? Whatever your answer is, that is your SPARK. As a volunteer, you have a spark that causes you to volunteer your time to the 4-H program each month. Just like adults, youth have sparks as well. These sparks are their passionate interests, a special quality or skill; anything that gives life meaning and purpose. By finding your “spark,” you can truly thrive rather than just get by. Once identified, these sparks can help bring out a person’s energy, joy, personality, and ability to contribute to the world in a positive way.

How do we help youth discover their spark? The route to finding a spark begins with exploring projects, relationships, values and more. Youth can find their spark by immersing themselves in interactions with other youth and adults, their community and exploring a variety of different interests.

Through the 4-H program, youth have the opportunity to do just that while in a safe environment. 4-H projects and club activities allow youth to explore while interacting with their peers and caring adults. They can explore projects ranging from citizenship, communication, STEAM, animal science and more.

It is volunteers like you who provide these learning opportunities for youth to find their spark and truly thrive during their childhood and beyond!

CREATING AN INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT

As we embark on the new 4-H year, it is important to remember that we need to create an inclusive environment for all. Think about allowing your child to try a sport. You go to that sport and feel like the fish out of water. Do you want to go back to the next practice? It is our responsibility to create an atmosphere where everyone feels welcome. Use these tips to create a welcoming environment for all:

-Create a space that feels welcoming. Arrange the meeting in a way that everyone feels included. Make sure that there are enough tables/chairs for everyone.

Have returning 4-H youth serve as greeters as people enter the meeting. Remember that many people judge a situation or person by the first impression – make it a good one! You may want to use nametags so that both youth and adults can get to know one another.

Use icebreakers at the beginning of each meeting to get youth talking to one another. This is the perfect time to break them out of their regular “friend group.”

Keep up with your communication. Make sure everyone is “in the loop” by sharing information with parents in a variety of ways. This could include text messages, phone calls, emails, social media messages and more.

Engage parents in meetings by asking for them to help with activities, provide snacks and more.

Promote a sense of family and culture. Model a friendly environment where everyone is encouraged to speak to each other and get to know one another.

Respect diversity. Just like our fingerprints are different, each person is different in their own way. Recruit a variety of club members and make sure that they understand that their different perspectives and experiences are valued.



4-H ONLINE ENROLLMENT IS OPEN!

Don't forget! Both youth and adult volunteers must enroll or re-enroll in 4-H online for the 2021-2022 4-H club year.

Things to remember:

- *Do not make a duplicate family account. If you need help logging into your old account, call your local 4-H Office.
- *New Volunteers must fill out screening information in addition to completing the OYCS Training.
- *It is a good practice to save your OYCS Training completion score and email it to your 4-H Office.



4-H OFFICER DUTIES

PRESIDENT

The President has an important job where they must use their leadership skills. They will plan and conduct the business meeting, prepare the meeting agenda and know how to use parliamentary procedure to conduct the meeting in an orderly fashion. It is the President's duty to appoint a temporary secretary if needed, keep order in the meetings, provide opportunities for all members to be heard and to decide points of order fairly. As the President, you must work closely with your club Leader and executive board to plan for the club year!

VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice President is next in rank to the President and must take the President's place if that officer is not present at a meeting. You should know parliamentary procedure as well as the duties of the President. You will serve as chairman of the program committee and will help arrange a well-planned meeting each month.

SECRETARY

The Secretary is responsible for maintaining the records of the club. You will need to complete the 4-H Secretary's Record Book. Within this book, you will need to record any officers elected, committees appointed and any other business brought to the club within the 4-H club meeting minutes. You will need to call roll or request attendance at each meeting as well as stand and read the minutes from the previous meeting to the group. Finally, you are responsible for all club correspondence including writing thank-you letters when necessary.

TREASURER

The Treasurer is tasked with keeping the financial records of the club. You will need to work with your finance committee to create a club budget for the year. You will also need to keep an accurate account of all money received and paid expenses. You will report the current club balance each month. The treasurer will need to complete all club fundraiser request forms and will need to provide receipts for all money received.

4-H TEACHES YOUTH TO RELATE TO OTHERS

In 4-H, youth pledge their "Heart to greater loyalty for my club, my community, my country, and my world." In order for youth to be able to do this they must relate to each other.

This month we will look at the life skills associated with this concept, accepting differences, conflict resolution, social skills, cooperation, and communication.

Accepting Differences –

Through 4-H club work you can learn valuable skills while accepting differences such as: treating everyone with respect, and exploring and embracing differences.

Communication - By incorporating activities such as demonstrations, writing thank you notes, and challenging youth to summarize a guest speaker's message youth can learn valuable communication skills.

Social Skills - Simply by attending 4-H meetings youth can enhance their social skills by learning to greet others, have respectful conversations, express their feelings appropriately, and using good manners.

Conflict Resolution - In 4-H youth often learn that not everyone does everything the same way. They learn to recognize other youths point of view, and how others express their own thoughts, feeling and opinions.

Cooperation - Youth learn to work together as part of a team, and how to practice good sportsmanship. They learn to work together to create a trusting environment.

REPORTER

The club Reporter has the opportunity to tell others about their 4-H club. You will submit news articles to spread the word about your 4-H club to others. You will write a report of each 4-H meeting immediately following each club meeting. You should submit a copy of your report to the 4-H office to be included in the 4-H newsletter or on social media.

HISTORIAN

The club Historian should collect memorabilia from 4-H'ers about events and activities of the club. You should take photographs that show the events and activities of the 4-H club and organize them into a photo book or scrapbook. You can work with the club reporter to gather news clippings and stories about 4-H.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

The Sergeant-at-Arms will assist the club officers with room set-up including placing the flags correctly, making sure that there are enough chairs for all members etc. You will also arrange for the pledges and thought of the day for each meeting. Most importantly, you will help keep order/peace during the club meeting.

If you would like more information about the 4-H Club Officer positions, please reference the Florida 4-H Officer's Handbook.



PROPER ELECTION PROCEDURES

When electing club officers, it is important to follow the procedures outlined below to have a fair race for all.

- Always start with electing the club President - that way youth who do not win can run for another office.
- The President should ask for nominations for the specific officer position.
- Members will make nominations for themselves or others.
- The President should ask those nominated if they they accept. If so, their name should be placed on the ballot.
- Once all nominations are made, the President should ask for a motion to close nominations.
- All members who accepted nominations, should then stand up to give a short speech about themselves and why they want the position.
- Always use a secret ballot. You can use a pre-made ballot with the names added OR you can use a blank piece of paper and have everyone vote by writing the person's name. NEVER vote by raise of hands.
- Two members who are not related to those running should count ballots and report the winner to the President. The President will then announce the winners to the group.
- If there is a tie, the group should repeat the election until there is a majority winner.

Information derived from Michigan State University

USING CEREMONIES TO RECOGNIZE NEW CLUB MEMBERS & NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS

A Club Officer Installation Ceremony can be used to recognize new club Officers and the role that they are taking on. There are many themes that can be used to install your newly elected officers. These themes range from types of candy to construction tools and more. You can find some great ideas for themed

Officer Installation ceremonies at this website <https://tinyurl.com/sfc727c3> or by googling *4-H Officer Installation ideas*.

You may also choose to do an installation of new club Members. This ceremony should be held shortly after the start of the new club year in order to give new members the feeling that they belong to the group and share in the responsibilities and opportunities of the club. It also makes all in attendance aware of the 4-H club purpose.

The Setting	<p>If the ceremony is held in a room or hall, the United States flag, the 4-H flag, and flowers add to the ceremony. Singing or soft music throughout the ceremony can make it more impressive. If candles are used, darken the room. Each 4-H member and the leaders may have a lighted candle and one leader will need extra candles to give to each new member. If candles are not used, pin a single flower or four-leaf clover on the new members.</p> <p>The new members should be in another room with a leader. While music is played or sung, the leader enters from another room with those who want to become members. All stand in a row opposite the officers until music stops.</p>
	The Program
Leader	These youths, (first names), who stand before you wish to become members of the _____ 4-H Club.
President	With you who are about to become members of the 4-H Club, we want to share the purpose of 4-H. It is to help youth develop mentally,
Vice President	physically, socially and spiritually in order to assume the responsibilities of citizenship in a democratic society.
Reporter	Our motto is "To Make the Best Better." Repeat the motto with me. Repeat the 4-H pledge after me.
President	The 4-H club emblem is a green four-leaf clover with the letter "H" on each leaf. The green four-leaf clover symbolizes youth, life and growth. The four H's stand for head, heart, hands and health.
Treasurer	The treasurer will give us the 4-H creed.
Secretary	(Treasurer says 4-H creed.)
President	We are glad to have you as members of the _____ 4-H Club. You are now members of one of the world's largest youth organizations. 4-H clubs are sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture and in our state by the University of Florida and Florida A & M University. There are 4-H clubs for boys and girls in every state and in many other countries of the world.
New Members	You are now familiar with the purposes of 4-H work, the extent of the organization, the 4-H emblem and what it symbolizes, the 4-H motto, and the 4-H creed. Are you willing to try to live up to the ideals of 4-H clubs?
President	I am.
New Members	Do you wish to become a 4-H club member?
President	I do.
President	As a 4-H member you will be expected to attend meetings regularly, learn the 4-H pledge, take an active part in our club and keep your parents informed of your progress.
President	After you have entered your names on the secretary's book, you are club members. (The membership leader leads them to the secretary's table where they enter their names. Other members might sing an appropriate song during this time.)
President	Now take a candle from our leader, _____. Light it from his/her candle and then take your place in line with the other members. (While the new members light their candles music may be played softly or hummed by all members.)
Leader	May the 4-H light shine in your home, your club, and your community. Let us close by singing together. (4-H or patriotic song.)

4-H OFFICER TRAININGS - MOVING ONLINE

In order to provide Officer Training to youth that is more accessible to them during their busy schedules, we have created Officer Training modules via the University of Florida CANVAS course system. Each course will educate youth about their elected position and requires them to complete activities related to their club duties. At the completion of the course, youth will automatically receive a certificate of completion which can be printed and submitted along with their record book.

PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENT

<https://tinyurl.com/tbjwft5r>



SECRETARY

<https://tinyurl.com/ant8jtfu>



TREASURER

<https://tinyurl.com/2ctkyczk>



REPORTER/HISTORIAN

<https://tinyurl.com/zvnmukke>



SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

<https://tinyurl.com/tcnyjuac>





SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 4-H VOLUNTEER CROSSWORD



PUZZLE - 4-H TRIVIA?

ACROSS

4. 4-H originally had only three H's. In 1911 the 4th H was added. Which one was it?

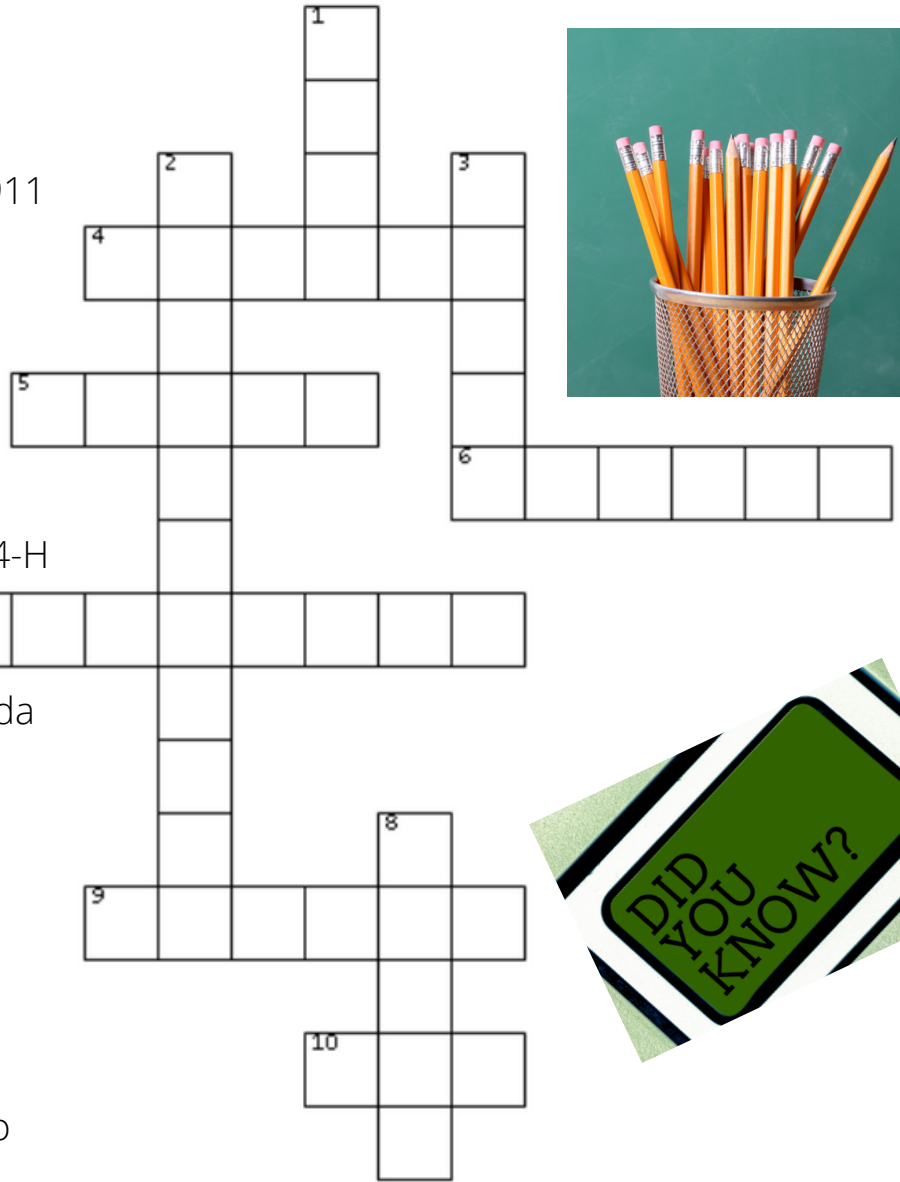
5. Lever, The Act, establishing the Extension Services of the Land-Grant Colleges of the nation.

6. The number of counties that offered 4-H Girls Tomato Clubs in 1912.

7. The building on the University of Florida campus where the State 4-H Offices are located.

9. The last name of the person who had the idea of using a clover as the 4-H Emblem.

10. my world, This wording was added to the 4-H Pledge in 1973.



DOWN

1. The last name of the State 4-H leader in Kansas that wrote the original 4-H pledge.

2. The 4-H program started in the 1970;s, and held annually in Tallahassee.

3. The number of counties that offered 4-H Corn Clubs for boys in 1909.

8. The 4-H Slogan is -"Learn by _____"

**SEPTEMBER 1 IS THE OFFICIAL START OF THE 4-H YEAR.
HERE IS A CROCKPOT MEAL FOR AN EASY SUPPER ON 4-H MEETING NIGHT.**

Ingredients

2-1/2 pounds lean ground beef (90% lean)

1 medium onion, chopped

1 medium green pepper, chopped

1 banana pepper, finely chopped

2 cans (28 ounces each) diced tomatoes, undrained

2 cans (16 ounces each) kidney beans, rinsed and drained

2-1/2 teaspoons chili powder

2 teaspoons ground cumin

2 cups uncooked elbow macaroni

4 cups shredded cheddar cheese

Optional: Sour cream and additional shredded cheddar cheese



<https://www.tasteofhome.com/recipes/chili-macaroni-and-cheese/>

Directions

- 1 In a Dutch oven, cook beef, onion and peppers over medium-high heat until beef is no longer pink and vegetables are tender, breaking up beef into crumbles, 8-10 minutes; drain. Transfer to a 7-qt. slow cooker. Stir in tomatoes, beans, chili powder and cumin. Cook, covered, on low until flavors are blended, 5-6 hours.
- 2 Meanwhile, cook macaroni according to package directions; drain. Add to slow cooker. Stir in cheese until melted. If desired, serve with sour cream and additional cheese.

**SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER
VOLUNTEER CHALLENGE**
COMPLETE THIS SURVEY
FOR A CHANCE TO WIN
A 4-H PRIZE.

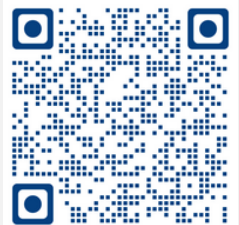


**Congratulations
to our August winner!
Kristie Lawson**

HAVE YOU COMPLETED YOUR OYCS TRAINING?

4-H requires Volunteers to take the OYCS training every year. The training is now housed in 4-Honline, and is easy to access. Please remember 4-H recommends that you use Mozilla Firefox, Microsoft Edge, or Google Chrome as your web browser to access 4-H online. 4-H Online is not compatible with Microsoft Internet Explorer.

The link to 4Honline is <https://v2.4honline.com> or scan this code.



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